

Dave H. 4/19 ✓

# CSBA Sample Board Policy

Students

BP 5148.3(a)

## PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

*Revised Timelines for mandatory T.K. COVID closure = distance learning ✓*

Note: The following **optional** policy may be used by districts that operate their own preschool/early childhood education programs and/or collaborate to provide preschool opportunities within the community. CSBA's publication What Boards of Education Can Do about Kindergarten Readiness provides information about characteristics of effective preschool programs and actions that the district and Governing Board can take to encourage and/or provide high-quality preschool education.

Pursuant to AB 131 (Ch. 116, Statutes of 2021), the statutes that govern the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) were renumbered within the Education Code. In addition, pursuant to AB 131, the statutes that govern child care programs under the Child Care and Development Services Act were repealed from the Education Code and reenacted in the Welfare and Institutions Code. Education Code 8207, as added by AB 131, clarifies that the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) and the California Department of Education (CDE) retain administrative supervision of the CSPP.

In December 2020, the SPI initiated the rulemaking process for revised implementing regulations for the CSPP. Once final, these regulations may affect this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

Education Code 8281.5, as added by AB 130 (Ch. 44, Statutes of 2021), establishes the California Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program as an early learning initiative with the goal of expanding access to classroom-based prekindergarten programs at districts. The program allocates funding to all districts that operate kindergarten programs through minimum base grants, enrollment grants based on a district's kindergarten enrollment, and supplemental grants based on a district's percentage of unduplicated students. Grant funds may be used for costs associated with creating or expanding CSPP programs or transitional kindergarten (TK) programs, or to establish or strengthen partnerships with other providers of prekindergarten education within the district, including Head Start programs, to ensure that high-quality options for prekindergarten education are available for four-year-old children. Allowable costs include, but are not necessarily limited to, planning costs, hiring and recruitment costs, staff training and professional development, classroom materials, and supplies.

Pursuant to AB 131, the Legislature allocated additional funds to provide subsidized child care and CSPP programs with COVID-19 pandemic-related assistance. Education Code 8252, as amended and renumbered by AB 131, requires districts to waive family fees for all families receiving subsidized child care services from CSPP programs during the 2021-22 school year. See the accompanying administrative regulation for more information regarding waiver of fees.

The Governing Board recognizes the value of high-quality preschool experiences to enhance children's social-emotional development, knowledge, skills, and abilities. The Board desires to provide a supervised, and cognitively rich environment designed to facilitate the transition to kindergarten for three- and four-year-old children.

Note: The following **optional** paragraphs may be used by all districts, regardless of whether they provide their own preschool programs, and may be revised to reflect district practice.

Welfare and Institutions Code 10480-10487 establish county-level child care and development planning councils, with members selected by the County Board of Supervisors and County Superintendent of Schools, to identify local priorities for child care, including preschool programs, and to develop policies to

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meet identified needs; see BP 5148 - Child Care and Development. Such councils may also develop centralized student eligibility lists; see section on "Enrollment Priority" in the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with the local child care and development planning council, the county office of education, other public agencies, organizations, and/or private preschool providers to assess the availability of preschool programs in the community and the extent to which the community's preschool needs are being met. The Board encourages the development of a comprehensive districtwide and/or countywide plan to increase children's access to high-quality preschool programs.

*(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*

*(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)*

The Superintendent or designee shall provide information about preschool options in the community to parents/guardians upon request.

**District Preschool Programs**

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that choose to provide preschool/early childhood education programs for three-year-old and four-year-old children and should be revised to reflect district practice.

The district may contract with CDE to offer a program through the CSPP pursuant to Education Code 8200-8340. Three-year-old and four-year-old children from low-income or otherwise disadvantaged families may be eligible for subsidized services. See the accompanying administrative regulation for major program requirements for CSPP.

Pursuant to Education Code 8207, as amended by AB 131, CSPP programs may be part-day or full-day programs that are age and developmentally appropriate. See the accompanying administrative regulation for details.

Preschool programs may also receive funding through the state migrant child care and development program (Welfare and Institutions Code 10235-10238), child care and development services for children with special needs program (Welfare and Institutions Code 10260-10263), federal Head Start program (42 USC 9831-9852), Title I preschool program (20 USC 6311-6322), or other funding sources available to the district.

When the Board determines that it is feasible, the district may contract with the California Department of Education (CDE) to provide preschool services in facilities at or near district schools, either directly or through a subcontract with a public or private provider.

Note: Pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1596.792, CSPP programs that are operated in a school building by a school district under contract with CDE are exempted from licensure and regulation requirements of Health and Safety Code 1596.70-1597.21. However, such CSPP programs are required to comply with other specified health and safety requirements, including the Field Act, California Building Standards Code,

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requirements for kindergarten classrooms specified in 5 CCR 14001-14306, and requirements for CSPP programs specified in 5 CCR 18000-18308.

Pursuant to Education Code 8205, as amended and renumbered by AB 131, any child under four years of age shall be served in a CSPP facility licensed in accordance with Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.

District preschool programs shall comply with all health and safety laws and regulations, including, when applicable, licensure requirements pursuant to 22 CCR 101156.

Note: 5 CCR 18130 specifies the state regulations for child care and development programs that are applicable to CSPP programs, including the requirement in 5 CCR 18271 that the Board approve a written philosophical statement, goals, and objectives addressing each program component specified in 5 CCR 18272-18281. See the accompanying administrative regulation and AR 5148 Child Care and Development for further information about these required program components.

The Board shall approve, for the district's preschool program, a written philosophical statement, goals, and objectives that reflect the cultural and linguistic characteristics of the families to be served and address the program components specified in 5 CCR 18272-18281 and the accompanying administrative regulation (5 CCR 18271) ✓

The Board shall set priorities for establishing or expanding services as resources become available, giving consideration to the benefits of providing early education programs for at-risk children and/or children residing in the attendance areas of the lowest performing district schools. ✓

*(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)*

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 17375, as amended by AB 130 and AB 167 (Ch. 252, Statutes of 2021), districts may be awarded grants for the construction of new preschool classrooms or the modernization of existing preschool classrooms pursuant to the California Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program.

Preschool classroom needs shall be addressed in the district's facilities master plan, including an assessment as to whether adequate and appropriate space exists on school sites. As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall provide information to the Board regarding facilities financing options for preschool classrooms and/or facilities available through partnering organizations or agencies.

*(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)*

*(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)*

*(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)*

Because parents/guardians are essential partners in supporting the development of their children, the Superintendent or designee shall involve them in program planning.

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*(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)*

*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

Note: The following **optional** paragraph provides for coordination of the preschool program with the TK program and may be revised to reflect district practice. Education Code 48000, as amended by AB 130 and AB 167, requires districts receiving TK apportionment to offer to any child whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and December 2 a TK program as the first year of a two-year kindergarten program and revises the timespans for mandatory admittance requirements to be phased in starting in the 2022-23 school year to the 2025-2026 school year; see BP 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten.

The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the district's preschool program, transitional kindergarten program (TK), and elementary education program to provide a developmental continuum that builds upon children's growing skills and knowledge.

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48000, as amended by AB 130 and AB 167, a child's eligibility for TK enrollment may not impact family eligibility for a preschool or childcare program. Education Code 8205, as renumbered and amended by AB 131, clarifies that four-year-old children who are eligible to participate in a CSPP program include those children whose 5th birthday occurs after September 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a CSPP program and whose parent or guardian has opted to retain or enroll them in a CSPP program.

A child's eligibility for TK enrollment shall not impact family eligibility for a preschool or child care program. (Education Code 8203, 48000)

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*

*(cf. 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten)*

Note: CDE has developed voluntary "preschool learning foundations" which describe the knowledge, skills, and competencies that children are expected to exhibit as they complete their first or second year of preschool. These standards address essential skills in the subject areas listed below. The standards and companion preschool curriculum frameworks are available on CDE's web site.

The district's program shall be aligned with preschool learning foundations and curriculum frameworks developed by CDE which identify the knowledge, skills, and competencies that children typically attain as they complete their first or second year of preschool. The program shall be designed to facilitate children's development in essential skills in the areas of language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performing arts, science, history-social science, English language development, and social-emotional development.

Note: Education Code 8203, as amended by AB 1363 (Ch. 498, Statutes of 2021), requires the quality indicators for CSPP programs to include activities and services that meet the needs of dual language learners for support in the development of their home language and English, and is reflected in the following paragraph.

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The district's preschool program shall include activities and services that meet the needs of dual language learners for support in the development of their home language and English. (Education Code 8203)

The district's preschool program shall provide appropriate services to support the needs of at-risk children.

*(cf. 0415 - Equity)*

*(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)*

*(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)*

*(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)*

*(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)*

*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)*

*(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)*

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 8207, as amended and renumbered by AB 131, CSPP programs must include certain required components, as reflected in the accompanying administrative regulation.

To maximize the ability of children to succeed in the preschool program, the program shall support children's health through proper nutrition and physical activity and shall provide or make referrals to available health and social services as needed.

*(cf. 3550 - Food Services/Child Nutrition Program)*

*(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)*

*(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)*

*(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)*

*(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)*

The district shall encourage volunteerism by families participating in the program and shall communicate frequently with parents/guardians of enrolled children regarding their child's progress.

*(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)*

Note: The Commission on Teacher Credentialing issues permits for child development program directors, site supervisors, master teachers, teachers, associate teachers, and assistants pursuant to criteria established in Education Code 8205 and 8298, as renumbered and amended by AB 131, and 5 CCR 80105-80125. The district may request from CDE a waiver of the qualification requirements for a site supervisor upon demonstration of a compelling need, in accordance with Education Code 8205 and 5 CCR 18295.

Health and Safety Code 1596.7995 requires that employees and volunteers at a day care center be immunized against influenza, pertussis, and measles, with specified exemptions. In addition, Health and Safety Code 1597.055 requires that teachers in a day care center obtain a tuberculosis clearance. See the accompanying administrative regulation.

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The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals in district preschool programs possess the appropriate permit(s) issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, meet any additional qualifications established by the Board, and participate in professional development opportunities designed to continually enhance their knowledge and skills.

*(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)*

*(cf. 4112.4/4212.4/4312.4 - Health Examinations)*

*(cf. 4112.5/4212.5/4312.5 - Criminal Record Check)*

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)*

*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 18130, CSPP programs are subject to the requirements of 5 CCR 18105. 5 CCR 18105 **mandates** that districts offering a CSPP program develop written admissions policies and procedures that conform to the requirements of 22 CCR 101218, as provided in the following paragraph. See the accompanying administrative regulation for additional language that fulfills this mandate.

Preschool admissions policies and procedures shall be in writing and available to the public. Such policies and procedures shall include criteria designating those children whose needs can be met by the program and services, the ages of children who will be accepted, program activities, any supplementary services provided, any field trip provisions, any transportation arrangements, food service provisions, and a health examination requirement. (CCR 18105; 22 CCR 101218)

Note: Education Code 8208, 8210, and 8211, as amended and renumbered by AB 131, and 5 CCR 18106 establish eligibility criteria and priorities for subsidized preschool services, as provided below and in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Eligibility is generally limited to children who reside within district boundaries. However, Education Code 8267, as amended and renumbered by AB 131, and 5 CCR 18107 authorize the Board to enter into an agreement with the boards of other districts to serve children who reside within those districts. The district may revise the following paragraph to reflect any such agreement approved by the Board.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that subsidized preschool is provided to eligible families to the extent that state and/or federal funding is available and shall establish enrollment priorities in accordance with Education Code 8208, 8210, and 8211 and 5 CCR 18106.

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**. Pursuant to Education Code 8207, as amended and renumbered by AB 131, programs operated under the CSPP may be part-day or full-day programs.

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The Superintendent or designee shall recommend strategies to link the district's preschool program with other available child care and development programs in the district or community in order to assist families whose child care needs extend beyond the length of time that the district's preschool program is offered.

Note: Education Code 8281.5, as added by AB 130 and amended by AB 167, requires districts receiving grants through the California Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program to develop a plan for consideration by the board at a public meeting on or before June 30, 2022 for how all children in the attendance area of the district will have access to full-day learning programs the year before kindergarten that meet the needs of parents/guardians, including through partnerships with the local educational agency's expanding learning offerings, the After School Education and Safety Program, the CSPP, Head Start programs, and other community-based early learning and care programs. See BP 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the plan to provide access to full-day learning programs the year before kindergarten addresses the needs of preschool children and their families as specified in BP 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten. (Education Code 8281.5)

Note: Pursuant AB 131, the Legislature allocated additional funds to provide subsidized child care and CSPP programs with COVID-19 pandemic-related assistance. To receive the additional funding, a CSPP program that is funded to be operational, but which is physically closed by local or state public health order or guidance due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is required to provide distance learning services as specified by CDE in Management Bulletin 21-11, Reopening, Reimbursement, Distance Learning Plans, and Distance Learning Requirements for California State Preschool Program Contractors.

When a district CSPP program is physically closed by local or state public health order due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the district shall provide distance learning to preschool children when required to do so as a condition of funding or when required by law. ✓

Note: 5 CCR 18279.18281 require an annual evaluation using CDE's standardized "Desired Results for Children and Families" system. The system requires a self-evaluation that includes, but is not limited to, an assessment of the program by staff and the Board, a parent/guardian survey, and an environment rating scale using forms selected by CDE. In addition, every three years, CDE conducts a Federal Program Monitoring/Contract Monitoring Review (FPM/CMR) process with each contract agency which reviews compliance with program requirements. The FPM/CMR instrument is available on CDE's web site.

Education Code 8203.1 establishes the early learning quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) block grant to support continuous local improvement efforts that increase the number of low-income children in high-quality preschool programs. Grant funds may be awarded to eligible local consortia, which then allocate funds to districts and other agencies contracting to provide CSPP programs. Pursuant to Education Code 8203.1, QRIS is based on a tiered rating structure with progressively higher quality standards for each tier. It is designed to (1) provide supports and incentives for programs, teachers, and administrators to reach higher levels of quality; (2) monitor and evaluate program impacts on child outcomes; and (3) disseminate information to parents/guardians and the public about program quality. For further information about the QRIS block grant, see CDE's web site and its publication Dream Big for Our Youngest Children.

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The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement an annual plan of evaluation which conforms to state requirements. (5 CCR 18279)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that offer a CSPP program and may be revised to reflect the type(s) of programs offered by the district. Education Code 8212, as renumbered by AB 131, requires districts to use the uniform complaint procedures, with modifications as necessary, to investigate and resolve health and safety complaints in license-exempt CSPP programs. 5 CCR 4610 requires that such complaints be addressed through the procedures described in 5 CCR 4690-4694, as added by Register 2020, No. 21. See BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

The district's uniform complaint procedures, with modifications as necessary, shall be used to investigate and resolve complaints alleging violation of applicable health or safety requirements for license-exempt programs operating under the California State Preschool Program. However, licensed programs shall refer complaints alleging health and safety violations to the California Department of Social Services. (Education Code 8212; 5 CCR 4610, 4611, 4690-4694)

*(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding enrollment in district preschool programs and the effectiveness of the programs in preparing preschoolers for transition into the elementary education program.

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

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**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)***Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE8200-8340 *California State Preschool Program, especially:*8203.5 *Contracts to provide child care and development services*8205 *Definitions*8207 *Administration; operation of programs; services*8208 *Eligibility of three- or four-year-old child for state preschool program*8209 *Physical examination and immunizations*8210 *Priority for part-day programs*8211 *Priority for full-day programs*8212 *Complaints related to preschool health and safety issues*8213 *Income eligibility*8214 *Order of disenrollment*8217 *Enrollment of four-year-old children in state preschool programs*8220-8221 *Family literacy services*8241 *Staffing ratios for center-based program*8252-8254 *Family fees*8281.5 *California Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program*8298 *Program director qualifications*17375 *California Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program*44065 *Interchange between certificated and classified positions*44256 *Credential types*48000 *Transitional kindergarten*48985 *Notification, primary language other than English*HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE1596.70-1596.895 *California Child Day Care Act*1596.90-1597.21 *Day care centers*120325-120380 *Immunization requirements*WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE10207-10490 *Child Care and Development Services Act, especially:*10207-10215 *General provisions*10217-10224.5 *Resource and referral programs*10225-10234 *Alternative payment programs*10235-10238 *Migrant child care and development programs*10240-10243 *General child care and development programs*10250-10252 *Family child care home education networks*10260-10263 *Child care and development services for children with special needs*10480-10487 *Local planning councils*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 54600-4670 *Uniform complaint procedures*4690-4694 *Health and safety complaints in license-exempt preschool programs*18000-18434 *Child care and development programs, especially:*18130-18136 *California State Preschool Program*18272-18281 *General Program Requirements*18295 *Waiver of qualifications for site supervisor*80105-80125 *Permits authorizing service in child development programs**Legal Reference continued: (see next page)*

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)**

*Legal Reference: (continued)*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

101151-101239.2 *General requirements, licensed child care centers, especially:*

101151-101163 *Licensing and application procedures*

101212-101231 *Continuing requirements*

101237-101239.2 *Facilities and equipment*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

6311-6322 *Title I, relative to preschool*

6371-6376 *Early Reading First*

6381-6381k *Even Start family literacy programs*

6391-6399 *Education of migratory children*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

9831-9852c *Head Start programs*

9857-9858r *Child Care and Development Block Grant*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 45

1301.1-1305.2 *Head Start*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*What Boards of Education Can Do About Kindergarten Readiness, Governance Brief, May 2016*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Management Bulletin 21-13, Guidance on Implementation of the California State Preschool Program Quality Requirements During the COVID-19 Pandemic, September 29, 2021*

*Management Bulletin 21-12, Guidance on Family Fees for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, September 17, 2021*

*Management Bulletin 21-11, Reopening, Reimbursement, Distance Learning Plans, and Distance Learning Requirements for California State Preschool Program Contractors, September 17, 2021*

*California Preschool Learning Foundations*

*Dream Big for Our Youngest Children: Final Report of the California Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee, 2010*

*Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language, Literacy, and Learning, 2nd ed., 2009*

*Prekindergarten Learning Development Guidelines, 2000*

*First Class: A Guide for Early Primary Education, 1999*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Policy Statement on Expulsion and Suspension Policies in Early Childhood Settings, 2016*

*Good Start, Grow Smart, April 2002*

*Management Resources continued: (see next page)*

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)**

*Legal Reference: (continued)*

WEB SITES

*CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>*

*California Association for the Education of Young Children: <http://www.caeyc.org>*

*California County Superintendents Educational Services Association: <http://www.ccsesa.org>*

*California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>*

*California Department of Social Services: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/>*

*California Head Start Association: <http://caheadstart.org>*

*California Preschool Instructional Network: <http://www.cpin.us>*

*Child Development Policy Institute: <http://www.cdpi.net>*

*Cities, Counties, and Schools Partnership: <http://www.ccspartnership.org>*

*First 5 Association of California: <http://www.cfca.gov>*

*National Institute for Early Education Research: <http://nieer.org>*

*U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>*

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